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# **Engagement Agreement**

# MAGILL PC

### Accountants & Business Advisors

September 30, 2022

<u>Via Email: rbattaglialaw@outlook.com</u> Free Speech Systems, LLC c/o Ray Battaglia

Reference: Bankruptcy Case No 22-60043 filed by Free Speech Systems, LLC, in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division ("Bankruptcy Case"); Engagement of Financial Adviser and Chief Restructuring Officer for Free Speech Systems LLC

### Gentlemen:

Magill PC (MAGILL) is pleased to assist Free Speech Systems LLC ("FSS") as financial adviser ("FA") and J. Patrick Magill as Chief Restructuring Officer ("CRO") in the design, development and implementation of an appropriate strategy for the confirmation of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan in the Bankruptcy Case

MAGILL understands that FSS ownership desires to develop and execute a business strategy to confirm a bankruptcy plan in the Bankruptcy Case that will maximize the return to creditors and stakeholders. Magill acknowledges that time is of the essence.

The services will be provided by MAGILL with your knowledge, and the FSS team will remain an integral participant in the overall effort. The estimated timeframe for consummating the confirmation of a Chapter 11bankruptcy plan cannot be accurately determined.

This Agreement shall be effective as of the date set forth above and shall continue in effect until the first to occur: (i) the successful completion of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy plan, (ii) expiration of a period of time ending on DATE, (iii) the point in time when either party provides written notice of its intention to terminate this Agreement, subject to Bankruptcy court approval.

### MAGILL Participation

Mr. Patrick Magill, will be directly involved in the effort and will diligently work in a concentrated timeframe to achieve the desired end result. Mr. Magill will have day-to-day responsibility for the effort and will work directly with the FSS representative and employees to complete the activities in support of this effort.

In order to make the most efficient use of the time and efforts of both FSS and MAGILL resources, the FSS representatives and employees will work under my direction on a first priority basis in order to complete this effort in a timely manner.

### Fees and Expenses

Based on the scope, resources, and duration of this engagement, our fees will consist of an initial, refundable \$50,000 contract retainer, payable at the time this Agreement is accepted and signed. MAGILL will charge FSS a fixed fee of \$50,000.00 per month. The retainer shall be held by MAGILL in trust and applied as a credit at the conclusion of MAGILL's engagement.

Documented out of pocket and travel expenses will be billed separately. Payment for professional fees will be due at the end of each calendar month; out of pocket documented expenses will be due and payable upon receipt of the invoice. Applicable state and local taxes, if any, will be applied.

### Indemnification

FSS agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless CRO, individually, and Magill PC, its affiliates, the respective partners, directors, officers, agents, contractors, and employees of Magill PC from and against any and all losses, claims, damages, liabilities, or costs, as and when incurred, to which such party may become subject to or which arc asserted against any party, directly or indirectly, in any way related to party while acting for FSS under this agreement including, without limitation, in connection with (i) any act or omission by party related to engagement as FA or CRO under the Agreement or (ii) Party's acceptance, performance or non-performance of obligations under said Agreement.

### Other Terms and Conditions

- As FSS is currently in bankruptcy, any professional fees paid by FSS would need the approval of
  the bankruptcy court. To avoid the time, expense and uncertainty of filing a fee application with the
  bankruptcy court, MAGILL requests the fixed fee under Section 328(a).
- Neither FSS nor MAGILL shall be liable to the other for more than the fees to be paid under this letter. In no event shall either party be liable for consequential, incidental, or punitive loss, damage or expenses (including lost profits).
- In addition, the CRO and FA shall, subject to FSS's certificate of incorporation and Bylaws, be given the authority to take whatever actions the CRO deems necessary, including, without limitation, the authority to:
  - 1. Assist in managing the day-to-day operation and business FSS
  - Assist FSS with managing due diligence requests and other items that may be requested by its various constituents as part of the restructuring process
  - 3. Prepare cash flow forecasts and related financial and business models
  - 4. Hire and terminate professionals
  - 5. Assist FSS in seeking to obtain credit as needed
  - 6. Prepare Amended Statements of Financial Affairs and Schedules, as needed
  - Prepare Monthly Operating Reports, and other similar regular Chapter 11 administrative, financial, and accounting reports required by the United States Bankruptcy Court
  - 8. Review inventory marketability and provide monetization alternatives as deemed appropriate

- 9. Make operational decisions, with consultation of current ownership, directed to maximizing the value of FSS. Notwithstanding the same, CRO shall be solely responsible for making all
- 10. Supervise the banking relationships, cash management and budgeting process of FSS and act as a primary signatory and authority on all bank accounts, with full rights to add or remove any signatory authority
- 11. Supervise management, employees and other personnel of FSS
- 12. Hire and terminate personnel of FSS
- 13. Develop and implement restructuring plans, including plans contemplating restructuring of debts, sales of assets, divestitures, liquidations or dispositions of assets of FSS
- 14. Formulate all strategic direction and alternatives of FSS
- 15. Implement cost containment measures
- 16. Negotiate with creditors, prospective purchasers, equity holders, equity committees, official committee of unsecured creditors, and all other parties in interest
- 17. Be in charge of all business decisions on behalf of FSS as necessary or required, utilizing CRO's business judgment in aid of the restructuring.
- 18. Execute all documents and take all other actions necessary to effectuate restructuring of FSS, including in the Bankruptcy Case, in consultation with current ownership
- FSS and MAGILL mutually agree that any disputes regarding the interpretation of this Agreement if not settled amicably between FSS and MAGILL, will be presented to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of Texas which is presiding over the FSS Bankruptcy.

This Agreement and the terms stated herein set forth the entire understanding between the parties and supersedes all prior agreements, arrangements and communications, whether oral or written, with respect to the subject matter hereof. Neither this letter nor the terms stated herein may be modified or amended except by the mutual written agreement of the parties. The laws of the State of Texas prevail in all disputed matters.

We are pleased to be of service to you, and look forward to assisting you in this important effort. Please indicate your acceptance of this Agreement by signing, dating, and returning this letter to me. Should you have any questions, please contact me at (713) 829-0069

Sincerel

- Patrick Magill

Magill PC

Accepted and Agreed: Pree Speech Systems, LLC, Debtor in Possession

Alex Jones, sole member

Date: October 3, 2022

# J. Patrick Magill

January 2014- Present

# Magill, P.C.

Principal of accounting firm providing business advisory, management services, accounting, business valuations and bankruptcy and workout services to small and middle market privately held companies in Texas. Current industries served are healthcare, manufacturing and energy service industries, including pipeline construction and oil field tool manufacturing.

August 2000- December 31, 2013

# MCR Capital Advisors Corporation Houston, Texas Senior Partner

Serving as senior partner, lead performance in investment banking, capital advisory, bankruptcies, corporate workouts and financial consulting services from our Houston office to our clients comprised of small and mid-size companies located in the Southwest. Specific industry expertise includes health care, financial services and professional service corporations. Successful projects include bankruptcy reorganizations; completed merger & acquisitions in various industries, including healthcare, technology and light manufacturing; debt restructures for client companies ranging up to \$7,500,000; and business advisory services including strategic planning, valuation services, and creditor/ debtor services for pre and post bankruptcies.

May 1996 - August 2000

# Health Advance Institute Houston, Texas President & Chief Executive Officer

While President and Chief Executive Officer of this multi-site national clinical research company, our company improved its profit margin from 29% to 47% and reduced operating expenses by 44%. Enrollment in the company's clinical research studies has increased to 94% and all operating sites were profitable. Operating improvements resulted from the closing of under performing clinics, eliminating overstaffing, implementing entrepreneurial operating procedures at the clinic level and consolidating corporate functions. The hiring of heavily

experienced industry savvy individuals reinvigorated the marketing staff, enhanced revenues and interjected new product confidence with our clientele.

Promotion to the senior level position by the board of directors came after two and one half years at the subsidiary level. Board of Directors presented this opportunity to revamp the company operations and take advantage of my previous experience in directing a clinical research company. Company is now in a position to expand beyond its current capital structure and is reviewing merger opportunities.

# **Director Clinical Operations- Houston Texas**

After merger of Predecessor Company to Health Advance Institute, remained with company to direct research operations in the largest operating unit in the company, which included 35 direct employees, 24 Principal Investigators and 60 ongoing or enrolling research studies involving most specialty areas. Initiated, organized and chaired an advisory board consisting of five experienced physicians to strategically plan for further development of business opportunities, study recruitment and physician recruitment. Worked directly with other divisions to develop and enhance standard operating procedures, revenue recognition reports, study enrollment activity tracking system and worked directly with industry leaders to promote corporate development. Developed activities in five new therapeutic areas for Houston clinical studies and completed working agreements with area clinics to expand the study capabilities in the Houston region.

# reSearch For Health, Inc.

(Merged with Health Advance Institute in July 1997)

Houston, Texas

# President & Chief Financial Officer

Hired by Chief Executive Officer and co-founder to take full operating and financial responsibilities for this one site, twelve year old research company, with the initial goal to identify expansion and growth opportunities. During first year, company revenues increased 25% with a pre-tax profit margin of 17%.

Within the first fifteen months, completed a strategic plan, arranged company's first independent audit, computerized the accounting system, secured a \$500,000 commercial bank credit arrangement to fund growth and completed corporate strategic plan. Completed initial offer to acquire additional clinical research sites across the country. During this activity, the company received two offers to sell 100% of its outstanding shares and consolidate operations with other research facilities. Negotiated a successful merger with Health Advance Institute in July 1997.

# Davey, Magill & Ounanian **Investment Banking Group**

Houston, Texas Partner

Established healthcare investment banking activities primarily with regional healthcare companies to provide mezzanine financing, joint venture partnerships, business valuations, strategic alliances and merger and acquisition activities. Arranged client financing from \$500,000 to \$5,000,000 for mezzanine financing Evaluated and initiated public and non-public sale and and acquisitions. acquisition transactions ranging from \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000 and assisted in negotiations and acted as financial advisors to client companies. Conducted detailed business valuations and management consultation for small to medium size companies.

June 1982 to June 1990

**HEI Corporation** Houston, Texas **Vice President-Operations** Secretary, Treasurer

Directed operations at this \$100 million publicly traded diversified healthcare company with operations in Texas and Missouri. Promoted to this combined position as part of the senior management team to develop and execute revised business plan. Company owned and operated seven hospitals; several hospital based home healthcare agencies, a durable medical equipment company, medical office buildings and a medical publishing company. Duties encompassed all aspects of healthcare operations within the company. As Secretary, interacted with Securities & Exchange Commission, shareholders and members of the Board of Directors. As Treasurer, established and maintained commercial banking relationship, arranged company financing and worked on the management team during the sale of the company to Columbia Healthcare in June 1990.

# Vice President of Mergers & Acquisitions

Promoted to Vice President-Mergers & Acquisitions after work was completed in publishing division. Identified and implemented synergistic healthcare operations to the primary care operations of seven hospitals. Acquired and financed home healthcare and durable medical equipment companies ranging in value from Responsible for the renovation, expansion and \$300,000 to \$1,000,000. construction of company owned facilities from \$50,000 to \$7,000,000.

> General Manager & Controller **HEI Publishing**

(Division of HEI Corporation)

General operational and financial responsibilities for recently acquired medical publishing division, owner of *Medical World News*, a bi-weekly national news magazine for primary care physicians. Initially moved publishing operations from New York City to Houston, Texas without production interruption. Hired replacement staff in Houston, Texas and expanded circulation to 500,000 primary care physicians nationwide. Developed additional publications for specialized physician groups until the sale of magazine in 1986. Concurrently worked with senior management on Initial Public Offering in 1983.

May 1979 to June 1982

# Southwest Chemical Services, Inc. Division of Thiokol Corporation Houston, Texas Director of Corporate Accounting

Completed the development of an automated accounting system that integrated domestic and foreign operations and consolidated information to the corporate office. Developed platform to convert manual accounting system to automated system and successfully completed system testing in 12-month period. Consolidated monthly financial information from six domestic and two foreign subsidiaries within reporting corporate deadlines. Worked directly with Chief Financial Officer on various projects including financial analysis of operating units and foreign exchange issues.

June 1978 to May 1979

# Frazier Construction Houston, Texas Controller

Opportunity to work in every aspect of the entire accounting function of this petrochemical construction company was the motivation to move from my previous job. This controller position was created immediately prior to my employment, which allowed for the development of an in-house accounting system and the hiring of a staff of two to produce financial statements, job cost analysis and cash management. Worked directly with the board of directors to establish a bank line of credit to fund long-term construction projects.

A downturn in the industry forced the shareholders to sell the business in 1979, thus eliminating the controller position.

# **United Salt Corporation**

Houston, Texas

### Staff Accountant

Hired to maintain subsidiary financial records of multiple subsidiaries. Position reported to assistant controller and duties required significant accounting knowledge that included bank reconciliations, general ledger postings, job cost and subsidiary ledger maintenance. Special accounting projects were an integral part of the staff accountant position.

## **Education & Certifications:**

Bachelor of Business Administration- University of Houston- 1977 Texas State Board of Public Accountancy- Certification # 27735 (Retired Status)

### **Contact Information:**

Cell: (713) 829-0069

E-mail Address: Patrick@MagillPC.com

Magill P.C. Client List

### **Litgation Support**

David J. Moore vs Tel-Tex Network Cabling, Inc, Terecor, Inc. d/b/a Tel-Tex Communications, Mascomm Enterprises, Inc. and Thomas W. Moore, Jr. Individually 2001-Cicack

### Herrington- Cause # H-00-2656

Herrington Equipment, Inc. and Robert N. Herrington vs Orix Credit Alliance 2001-2002- Cicack/Evans

# Reproduction Equipment Services-Cause # H-2000-36834

Reproductive Equipment Service, Inc. vs. Chris E, Rucker, Robert S. Williams and William H. Pierson, Jr., Individually and D/B/A Yourprintshop.com
In the 151st Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas 2002- Cicack

# Arthur Gallegher Cause# 2003-59265

HealthHelp, Inc., vs Arthur J. Gallagher, Inc., Healthcare First, and Gallagher Healthcare Insurance Services, Inc; In the 157th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas 2006- Cicack

# Optima International-Cause# 2005-54028

TrueStar Petroleum Corporation, Trinity Barnett, LLC, tinity Americas, Inc., Charles A Kohlhaas, Dwain M. Immel vs Optima Services International, Ltd., p/k/a Optima International Trust Company Limited, The Balaton Group, Robert J. Kubbernus, M. Carol Coale, John S. Burns and Frederick Bryson Farrill vs. J.W. Rhea, IV and Robert Chamberlain vs. Thomas F. Cooke, In 157th Judicial Districk Court of Harris County, Texas 2007-2008- Cicack

### Airgas- Cause # 2006-64492

IWS Gas & Supply of Texas, Ltd, Jerry D. Barton, Robert M. Morton, Jr., Steven P. Lynch and Ruben G. Pena vs. Airgas-Southwest, Inc: In the 269th Judicial District Court, Harris County Tex 2007-2008- Butler/Wilcox

### **Valuations**

**Applied Logic Associates** 

Conceptual Software, Inc.

Dupre Industries, Inc.

**Gatlin Education Services** 

Lone Star Ambuaince Inc.

Primary Medicine Center LLC

Automation Solutions, Inc.

### Bankruptcy/Workout

Wood, Lucksinger & Epstein liquidating trustee

O'Dell Geer Corporation No. 3-62039 creditor advisory services to Wright Asphalt Company

Goldstar EMS

Case no. 05-36446-144-11 Chief Restructing Officer

Diagnostic Clinic of Houston Case No. 07-30396 Chief Restructing Officer

Repros Therapeutics debtor advisory services

Apex- Katy Pin Oak Medical Case No. 12-31848 debtor advisory services

Westbury Hospital pre-bankrusptcy creditor advisory services to Downtown Hospital LLC

Watkins Eye Clinic debtor advisory services

Victory Healthcare Case No. 15-42373 Chief Restructing Officer

American Nation Carbide Case No 16-30992 debtor advisory services

The Tifaro Group Ltd Case No 17-80171 Liquidating Trustee